quantum of groundnut in the world, its export share is less than two per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to increase India's export share in the global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) India is the second largest producer of groundnuts after China and its share in the world market is about 5%.

The total quantity and value of groundnut exported during 2001-02 and April, 2002—February, 2003 is as under :–

Year	Qty. (Mts)	Value (Rs. crores)
2001-02	112813	250.94
Apr., 2002—Feb., 2003	59401	151.64

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(c) Some of the steps taken to enhance agri-exports, including groundnut include sending delegations abroad, participating in International trade fairs, inviting potential buyers and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging, brand promotion of products, conducting market surveys and accredition of laboratories for carrying out tests for afflatoxin in groundnut.

Supply of coal to MMTC

2718. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether MMTC Ltd. had entered into an agreement, with a supplier during 2001-2002 for suply of coal of superior quality at a lower rate;

(b) whether during the carrying of this valid agreement, MMTC entered into another agreement with the same supplier for supply of coal of lower quality at a higher rate;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) how much extra expenditure was incurred as a result thereof and officials responsible for this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) There was no case during 2001-02, where during the currency of an agreement for the supply of coal, another agreement was entered into with the same supplier for supply of coal of lower quality at a higher rate. However, there is a Government Audit Party (GAP) para on a similar issue involving an agreement signed on 15th May, 1999 (1999-2000) and another agreement signed with same supplier on 30th June, 2000 i.e., during the year 2000-01. The matter was clarified to GAP citing the fact that though the supplier of coal was the same, two separate purchases were made after following tender process for two different sets of technical specifications, different commercial terms and at two different times with a gap of one year for two different customers and the orders were placed on L-1 bidder on both the occasions. MMTC has accordingly refuted the contention of GAP.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Manufacturing of sub-standard cement

2719. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cement manufacturing companies are found manufacturing sub-standard cement and not adhering to the specification of BIS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against such companies;

(d) whether Government have made BIS norms mandatory for the cement industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) No such cases have come to the notice of the Government of India.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Under Cement (Quality Control) Order, BIS norms